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Decree this Court finds, that each Settling Defendant is entitled, as of the effective date of this Consent Decree, to protection from contribution actions or claims as provided by CERCLA Section 113(f)(2), 42 U.S.C. § 9613(f)(2) for all matters addressed in this Consent Decree; provided nothing herein shall prevent the Settling Defendants from seeking contribution from each other. The matters addressed in this Consent Decree are Natural Resource Damages as defined in Section IV (Definitions) of this Consent Decree.

b. The State and the Settling Defendants agree, and by entering this Consent Decree this Court finds, that pursuant to M.G.L. c. 21E, § 3A(j)(2), Settling Defendants are entitled, as of the effective date of this Consent Decree, to protection from claims brought pursuant to M.G.L. c. 21E, section 5(a)(ii) regarding matters addressed in this Consent Decree as to those persons receiving notice and an opportunity to comment on this Consent Decree in accordance with and to the extent provided by, M.G.L. c. 21E, § 3A(j)(2); provided nothing herein shall prevent the Settling Defendants from seeking contribution from each other. For purposes of this Paragraph 18.b., “matters addressed” shall be as defined as in Paragraph 18.a. Settling Defendants shall have 30 days following the lodging of the Consent Decree to provide notice to the public pursuant to M.G.L. c. 21E, § 3A(j)(2). The 90 day comment period shall commence 31 days after the date of lodging of this Consent Decree. Settling Defendants’ failure to provide timely and adequate notice to one person shall not affect their rights as against any other person who received such notice.

19. In any subsequent administrative or judicial proceeding initiated by the United States or the State for injunctive relief, recovery of response costs, or other appropriate relief relating to the Site, Settling Defendant shall not assert, and may not maintain, any defense or claim based

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upon the principles of waiver, res judicata, collateral estoppel, issue preclusion, claim-splitting, the entire controversy doctrine, or other defenses based upon any contention that the claims raised by the United States or the State in the subsequent proceeding were or should have been brought in the instant case; provided, however, that nothing in this Paragraph affects the enforceability of the covenants not to sue set forth in Section IX (Covenants by Plaintiffs).

20. The Settling Defendants agree that with respect to any suit or claim for contribution brought against them for matters related to this Consent Decree or the Site they will notify in writing the United States and the State within 10 days of service of the complaint on them. In addition, Settling Defendants shall notify the United States and the State within 10 days of service or receipt of any Motion for Summary Judgment and within 10 days of receipt of any order from a court setting a case for trial.

21. a. This Consent Decree shall not relieve Settling Defendants from their obligations to comply with any federal or state law, regulation, order, or permit. Nothing in this Consent Decree shall preclude Settling Defendants from applying to regulatory agencies for licenses, approvals, permits or modifications to licenses, approvals, or permits.

b. Notwithstanding any provision of this Consent Decree, the United States and the State hereby retain all of their information gathering and inspection authorities and rights, including enforcement actions related thereto, under CERCLA, RCRA, M.G.L. 21E, and/or any other applicable statutes or regulations.

c. Notwithstanding any other provision of this Consent Decree, the United States and the State retain all authority and reserve all rights to take any and all response actions authorized by law, and to direct or order all appropriate action, or seek an order from the Court, to protect

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human health and the environment or to prevent, abate, respond to, or minimize an actual or threatened release of hazardous substances or OHM on, at, or from the Site.

22. This Consent Decree shall not constitute evidence in any proceeding, except in a proceeding to enforce the provisions of this Consent Decree or in any proceeding regarding the meaning of a provision of the Consent Decree.

#### XI. NOTICES AND SUBMISSIONS

23. Whenever, under the terms of this Consent Decree, written notice is required to be given or a report or other document is required to be sent by one Party to another, it shall be sent to the individuals at the addresses specified below, unless those individuals or their successors give notice of a change to the other Parties in writing. All notices and submissions shall be considered effective upon receipt, unless otherwise provided. Unless otherwise specified in this Consent Decree, written notice as specified herein shall constitute complete satisfaction of any written notice requirement of the Consent Decree with respect to the United States, the State, and the Settling Defendants, respectively.

##### As to the United States:

Chief, Environmental Enforcement Section  
Environment and Natural Resources Division  
U.S. Department of Justice  
P.O. Box 7611  
Ben Franklin Station  
Washington, D.C. 20044  
Re: DJ # 90-11-3-1455

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Marguerite Matera  
Attorney  
NOAA  
Office of General Counsel  
One Blackburn Drive  
Suite 205  
Gloucester, MA 01930

Mark Barash  
U.S. Department of the Interior  
Office of the Solicitor  
One Gateway Center  
Suite 612  
Newton Corner, MA 02158-2868

As to the State:

Matthew Brock  
Assistant Attorney General  
Commonwealth of Massachusetts  
Office of the Attorney General  
Environmental Protection Division  
One Ashburton Place, 18th Floor  
Boston, MA 02108

Thomas LaRosa  
Assistant General Counsel  
EOEA  
251 Causeway Street, 9th floor  
Boston, MA 02114

As to the Settling Defendants:

James M. Lavelle, Manager  
City of Holyoke Gas & Electric Department  
99 Suffolk Street  
Holyoke, MA 01040

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John J. Ferriter, Esq.  
Ferriter & Ferriter, LLC  
150 Lower Westfield Road, Suite 100  
Holyoke, MA 01040

Linda T. Landis  
Senior Counsel  
Public Service Company of New Hampshire  
P.O. Box 330  
Manchester, NH 03105-0330

**XII. EFFECTIVE DATE**

24. The effective date of this Consent Decree shall be the date upon which this Consent Decree is entered by the Court.

**XIII. RETENTION OF JURISDICTION**

25. This Court retains jurisdiction over the subject matter of this Consent Decree, the United States, the State, and the Settling Defendants for the purpose of enabling any of the Parties to apply to the Court at any time for such further order, direction, and relief as may be necessary or appropriate for the construction or modification of this Consent Decree, or to effectuate or enforce compliance with its terms.

26. Nothing in this Consent Decree shall be deemed to alter the Court's power to enforce, supervise or approve modifications to this Consent Decree.

**XIV. APPENDICES**

27. The following appendix is attached to and incorporated into this Consent Decree:

Appendix A                    Map of the Site

**XV. COSTS AND ATTORNEY FEES**

28. If any of the Trustees bring an action to collect any payment or enforce any obligation required by this Consent Decree, and if the Trustee prevails in such action, Settling Defendants

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shall reimburse the Trustee for all costs of such action, including, but not limited to, attorney's fees.

#### XVI. MODIFICATION

29. Non-material modifications to the Consent Decree may be made only by written notification to and written approval of the United States, the State, and each of the Settling Defendants. Such modifications will become effective upon filing with the Court by the United States. Material modifications to the Consent Decree may be made only by written notification to and written approval of the United States, the State, Settling Defendants, and the Court. Nothing in this Decree shall be deemed to alter the Court's power to enforce this Consent Decree.

#### XVII. LODGING AND OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC COMMENT

30. a. This Consent Decree shall be lodged with the Court and subject to public notice and comment in accordance with M.G.L. c. 21E, § 3A(J)(2) and consistent with 28 C.F.R. § 50.7.

b. The United States reserves the right to withdraw or withhold its consent to the Consent Decree if comments received regarding the Consent Decree disclose facts or considerations which indicate that the Consent Decree is inappropriate, improper or inadequate. In addition, in the event of the State's withdrawal from this Consent Decree, the United States reserves its right to withdraw from this Consent Decree.

c. The State reserves the right to withdraw or withhold its consent to the Consent Decree if comments received regarding the Consent Decree disclose facts or considerations which indicate that the Consent Decree is inappropriate, improper or inadequate. In addition, in the event of the United States' withdrawal from this Consent Decree, the State reserves its right to

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withdraw from this Consent Decree.

31. If for any reason the Court should decline to approve this Consent Decree in the form presented, this agreement is voidable at the sole discretion of any Party and the terms of the agreement may not be used as evidence in any litigation between the Parties.

#### XVIII. SIGNATORIES/SERVICE

32. Each undersigned representative of a Settling Defendant to this Consent Decree, the State, and the Assistant Attorney General for the Environment and Natural Resources Division of the Department of Justice certifies that he or she is fully authorized to enter into the terms and conditions of this Consent Decree and to execute and legally bind such Party to this document.

33. Each Settling Defendant hereby agrees not to oppose entry of this Consent Decree by this Court or to challenge any provision of this Consent Decree unless the United States or the State has notified the Settling Defendants in writing that it no longer supports entry of the Consent Decree.

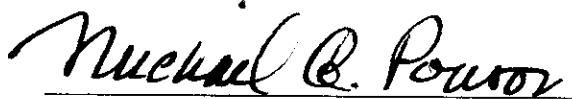
34. Each Settling Defendant shall identify, on the attached signature page, the name, address and telephone number of an agent who is authorized to accept service of process by mail on behalf of that Party with respect to the filing of the Complaint. Settling Defendants hereby agree to accept service in that manner and to waive the formal service requirements set forth in Rule 4 of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure and any applicable local rules of this Court, including, but not limited to, service of a summons.

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XIX. FINAL JUDGMENT

35. Upon approval and entry by the Court, this Consent Decree shall constitute a final judgment pursuant to Fed. R. Civ. P. 54 and 58.

SO ORDERED THIS 9<sup>th</sup> DAY OF November, 2004

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
United States District Judge

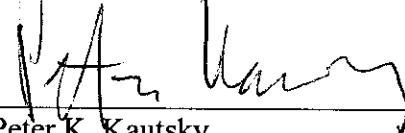
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THE UNDERSIGNED PARTY enters into this Consent Decree in the matter of United States and Commonwealth of Massachusetts v. Holyoke Water Power Company, relating to the Holyoke Gas Tar Deposits Site and Former Holyoke Gas Works Site.

FOR THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA



Thomas L. Sansonetti  
Assistant Attorney General  
Environment and Natural Resources Division  
U.S. Department of Justice  
Washington, D.C. 20530



Peter K. Kautsky  
Trial Attorney  
Environmental Enforcement Section  
Environment and Natural Resources Division  
U.S. Department of Justice  
Washington, D.C. 20530

Michael J. Sullivan  
United States Attorney  
District of Massachusetts



Karen Goodwin  
1550 Main Street  
U.S. Courthouse, Room 310  
Springfield, MA 01103  
(413) 785-0235

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THE UNDERSIGNED PARTY enters into this Consent Decree in the matter of United States and Commonwealth of Massachusetts v. Holyoke Water Power Company, relating to the Holyoke Gas Tar Deposits Site and Former Holyoke Gas Works Site.

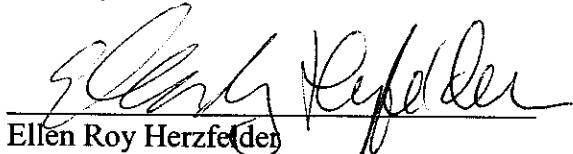
FOR THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

Thomas F. Reilly  
Attorney General  
Commonwealth of Massachusetts



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Matthew Brock  
Assistant Attorney General  
Commonwealth of Massachusetts  
Office of the Attorney General  
Environmental Protection Division  
One Ashburton Place  
18<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Boston, Massachusetts 02108

  
Ellen Roy Herzfelder

Secretary of Environmental Affairs  
Executive Office of Environmental Affairs of the  
Commonwealth of Massachusetts  
100 Cambridge Street  
Suite 900  
Boston, MA 02114

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THE UNDERSIGNED PARTY enters into this Consent Decree in the matter of United States and Commonwealth of Massachusetts v. Holyoke Water Power Company, relating to the Holyoke Gas Tar Deposits Site and Former Holyoke Gas Works Site.

FOR HOLYOKE WATER POWER COMPANY

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Jean M. LaVecchia  
Jean M. LaVecchia  
Vice President  
Human Resources and Environmental Services  
107 Selden Street  
Berlin, Connecticut 06037  
860-665-3650

Agent Authorized to Accept Service on Behalf of Above-signed Party:

Name: Jean M. LaVecchia  
Title: Vice President  
Human Resources and Environmental Services  
Address: 107 Selden Street  
Berlin, Connecticut 06037  
Tel. Number: 860-665-3650

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THE UNDERSIGNED PARTY enters into this Consent Decree in the matter of United States and Commonwealth of Massachusetts v. Holyoke Water Power Company, relating to the Holyoke Gas Tar Deposits Site and Former Holyoke Gas Works Site.

FOR CITY OF HOLYOKE GAS & ELECTRIC  
DEPARTMENT

Date: 5/11/04

James M. Lavelle  
James M. Lavelle, Manager  
City of Holyoke Gas & Electric Department  
99 Suffolk Street  
Holyoke, MA 01040  
(413) 536-9311

Agent Authorized to Accept Service on Behalf of Above-signed Party:

Name: James M. Lavelle  
Title: Manager  
Address: 99 Suffolk Street  
Holyoke, MA 01040  
(413) 536-9311

